

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 12.

Please amend claim 9 and add new claims 14-16 as follows (where unamended pending claims are shown in italics). Support for new claims 14-16 is found on page 18, line 6.

1. *A recombinant nucleotide construct composed of the sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or a species equivalent and encoding a mutated prolactin, wherein the expression of the sequence results in a mimic of a phosphorylated prolactin corresponding to a selected species, the mimic being capable of antagonizing growth promoting effects of non-phosphorylated prolactin in the selected species, the mimic being mutated at serine 179 or its selected species equivalent.*
 2. *The nucleotide sequence as in claim 1 wherein the serine mutation is by substitution.*
 3. *The nucleotide sequence as in claim 1 wherein the serine is mutated by an aspartate or glutamate residue substitution.*
 4. *The nucleotide sequence as in claim 1 herein the serine mutation is by an aspartate residue substitution.*
 5. *A construct comprising the nucleotide sequence of claim 3 or 4 operatively linked with an expression vector.*
 6. *The construct as in claim 5 wherein the expression vector is mammalian, viral, or bacterial.*
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9. (Twice Amended) A composition comprising:

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a human phosphorylated prolactin mimic, the mimic in an amount effective to antagonize growth promoting effects of non-phosphorylated human prolactin, the mimic being expressible by SEQ ID NO:1, being mutated at serine 179 and being substantially free of non-phosphorylated human prolactin; and

a pharmaceutically suitable carrier in which the mimic is admixed.

10. The composition as in claim 9 wherein the serine 179 is substituted by an aspartate or glutamate residue.

11. The composition as in claim 9 wherein the serine 179 is substituted by an aspartate residue.

-- 14. A method of treating a prolactin-dependent cancer, comprising:
administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a prolactin antagonist, the prolactin antagonist being expressible by SEQ ID NO:1 and being mutated at serine 179. --

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-- 15. The method as in claim 14 wherein the serine 179 is substituted by an aspartate or glutamate residue. --

-- 16. The method as in claim 14 wherein the prolactin-dependent cancer is prostatic cancer. --